



Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments®

AEPA: What's New and What You Need to Know

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What's New for 2012–2013?

NES® Assessment of Professional Knowledge (APK) Elementary and Secondary Tests

► Background

➤ Aligned with

- Arizona Professional Teaching Standards
- Based on InTASC standards

➤ Updated InTASC standards adopted in December 2011

➤ NES APK tests adopted in February 2012

NES APK: Web Site Announcement

WHAT'S NEW IN 2012–2013?

New Professional Knowledge Testing Requirements

Effective September 1, 2012, the NES® Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Elementary and Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Secondary tests will be accepted in Arizona as the official tests of professional knowledge, replacing the AEPA Professional Knowledge tests (Elementary and Secondary), to fulfill the professional knowledge testing requirement for Arizona teacher certification. (The AEPA Professional Knowledge–Early Childhood [93] test will continue to be the required professional knowledge test for candidates seeking Early Childhood certification.) The Arizona State Board of Education adopted the National Benchmark passing score of 220 for the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge tests.

Registration information for the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge tests will be available in summer 2012 and will be posted to the AEPA Web site as it becomes available. The last administration of the AEPA Professional Knowledge–Elementary and Professional Knowledge–Secondary tests will be on July 7, 2012.

The NES is a national teacher certification testing program with tests that are aligned to professionally accepted national subject and pedagogy standards. The NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge tests are computer-based tests offered year round, by appointment. They can be taken at test centers in Arizona, and at more than 225 Pearson Professional Centers throughout the United States and its territories (e.g., Puerto Rico), plus at selected sites worldwide. Additional information about the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge tests, including the test design, test fees, and test sites, can be found on the NES Web site, <http://www.nestest.com/>.

Preparation materials. Interactive online study guides and full-length practice tests for the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge tests can be found by selecting "Prepare" on the AEPA Web site. These and other preparation materials, including test frameworks and testing tips, are also currently available on the NES Web site:

- Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Elementary
- Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Secondary

NES APK: Features

NES APK Elementary and Secondary Tests

- Year round, computer-based testing
- Passing score based on national benchmark
- Scores released within 4 weeks of testing
- No fee online study guide

NES APK: Features *(Continued)*

NES APK Elementary and Secondary Tests

- ▶ **Tests design**
 - **100 Multiple-Choice Items**
 - **2 Written Response Items**
- ▶ **Testing time: 3 hours**

NES APK: Fees

NES APK Elementary and Secondary Tests

- ▶ **Test and registration fees**
 - **\$95 test fee**
 - **No registration fee**
 - **No late or emergency registration fees**

NES APK: Preparation Materials

NES APK Elementary and Secondary Tests

- ▶ Test structure and content
- ▶ No fee online study guide (NES Profile)
- ▶ Interactive, online study guide (for fee)
- ▶ Interactive, full-length, online practice test (for fee)

NES APK: CBT Test Sites

11 Arizona CBT Test Sites

- ▶ Arizona Western College (Yuma)
- ▶ Cochise College (Sierra Vista)
- ▶ Mohave Community College (Bullhead City, Kingman, Lake Havasu City)
- ▶ Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff)
- ▶ Pearson Professional Centers (Chandler, Phoenix, and Tucson)
- ▶ University of Arizona – South (Sierra Vista)
- ▶ Yavapai College (Prescott)

New AEPA Principal Test

New Principal Test (available spring/summer 2013)

- ▶ **Aligned with**
 - **Arizona Professional Administrator Standards adopted December 2011**
 - **Based on updated ISLLC standards**

New AEPA Principal Test

Test Administration

- **Full day test**
- **2 Sessions**

New AEPA Principal Test *(continued)*

Test Design

- 100 MCQs (50 per session)
- 4 CRIs (2 per session)
 - Management Problem Solving
 - Planning for Improved Student Success
 - School Data
 - Student Diversity

AEPA Web Site

www.aepa.nesinc.com

Preparation Materials for AEPA

Test Objectives

- ▶ **Basis for the tests**
- ▶ **Aligned with standards**
- ▶ **Consists of three components**
 - **Subareas**
 - **Objectives**
 - **Descriptive statements**
- ▶ **Items aligned to an objective**

Sample Test Objective

Field 001: Elementary Education

LANGUAGE ARTS

0001 Understand the reading process.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the acquisition of concepts of print
- demonstrating knowledge of phonemic awareness and its relevance to reading development
- demonstrating knowledge of phonics and its relevance to reading development
- identifying decoding and word identification strategies, including spelling patterns, syllabication, and word parts
- recognizing strategies for increasing students' vocabulary knowledge and their ability to apply vocabulary knowledge in new contexts
- recognizing the role of fluency on reading and reading comprehension
- demonstrating knowledge of strategies for facilitating comprehension before, during, and after reading (e.g., predicting, self-monitoring, questioning, rereading)

Sample Item

Field 001: Elementary Education

LANGUAGE ARTS

0001 Understand the reading process.

2. While reading aloud to a kindergarten class, the teacher asks students to call out any words that sound the same. This practice would be most effective as a way to promote the students' awareness of:
 - A. phonemic patterns.
 - B. decoding strategies.
 - C. word identification strategies.
 - D. letter-sound correspondences.

Preparation Materials for AEPA *(continued)*

AEPA Study Guides

▶ **Consist of two sections**

➤ **General information**

- **How to prepare**
- **Day of the test**
- **Sample Test Directions**
- **Sample Answer Documents**
- **Scoring Information**

Preparation Materials for AEPA *(continued)*

AEPA Study Guides *(continued)*

➤ Test-specific information

- Test Objectives
- Sample Items
- Directions, Performance Characteristics, and Score Scale for performance assignments
- Sample strong response to performance assignment

Preparation Materials for AEPA *(Continued)*

Expanded Study Guides

► Includes

- Full length practice tests
- List of preparation resources
- No additional cost

Preparation Materials for AEPA (*Continued*)

Test Preparation Video

How to Prepare for Your AEPA Test



National Evaluation Series Preparation Materials for AEPA

NES Prep Interactive Online Study Guides

- ▶ For fields similar to AEPA test fields
- ▶ Available through the AEPA Web site
- ▶ Aligned to national academic and professional standards



National Evaluation Series Preparation Materials for AEPA *(continued)*

NES Prep Interactive Online Study Guides include

- ▶ Instructional content
- ▶ A diagnostic test
- ▶ Sample test questions with explanations
- ▶ A guide to additional resources
- ▶ [Demo NES Prep study guide](#)

National Evaluation Series Preparation Materials for AEPA *(continued)*

NES Practice Tests

- ▶ For fields similar to AEPA test fields
- ▶ Available through the AEPA Web site
- ▶ Aligned to national academic and professional standards
- ▶ Computer-based, accessible online
- ▶ Can be taken in real time or paused



National Evaluation Series Preparation Materials for AEPA (Continued)

NES Practice Tests (*continued*)

► Includes

- Sample NES Practice Test
- Comprehensive feedback
- Interactive, diagnostic score report
- Sample test questions with rationales



CBT Tutorial

CBT Tutorial Preview

Tutorial - Candidate Name	⌚ Time Remaining 09:51 2 of 9
🚩 Flag for Review	

Time and Progress

At any point in the test, you can see how much time you have remaining in the upper right corner of the screen. Just below the time remaining, you will see "2 of 9." This indicates that you are viewing the second of nine questions or screens.

You can minimize the time remaining and the question number reminders by clicking on them. To restore them, click the  and  icons.

During the test, when you have five (5) minutes remaining, the time remaining will automatically reappear. You will also see a pop-up warning window when there are 30 minutes remaining in the test.

Navigation

The **Previous**, **Next**, and **Navigator** buttons on the bottom of this screen will be available throughout the test.

Previous moves you back one screen.

Next moves you to the following screen.

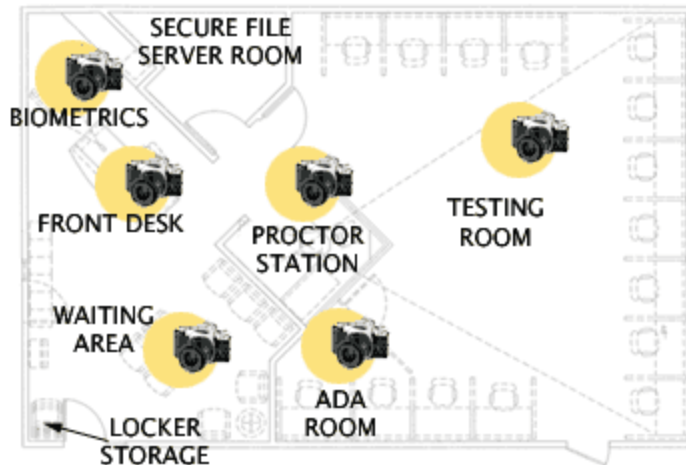
Navigator allows you to move to any question or section of the test.

These buttons and functions can be selected by:

- clicking the appropriate button with the mouse,
- using the shortcut keys, or
- using the Tab key to move through the options and then pressing the spacebar to select an option.

Computer Testing Center

Online Tour of Computer Testing Center



NES Tests Web Site

**Preparation materials and other information about
NES APK tests available at**

www.nestest.com



About the National Evaluation Series (NES)

- ▶ Aligned to national academic and professional standards
- ▶ **APK tests aligned to InTASC standards**
- ▶ Alignment Overviews available on NES Web site



NES Tests Information

Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Elementary

Format	Computer-based test (CBT); 100 multiple-choice questions, 1 case study written assignment, and 1 work product written assignment
Time	Three hours
Test Dates	By appointment, year round. Test appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Test Sites	CBT sites are located nationwide. Locate a test center.
Passing Score	National Benchmark score: 220
Reference Materials Provided for this Test	None.
Test Fee	\$95. Review payment information.
Score Reporting	Your score report is released within four weeks of testing.
Testing Policies	When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Read them now.
Prepare	View the preparation materials available for this test.



NES APK Preparation Materials

Preparation Materials

(APK: Elementary, APK: Secondary)

- ▶ Organization and Structure
- ▶ Testing Tips
- ▶ Test Framework



NES APK Preparation Materials *(Continued)*

Preparation Materials *(continued)*

► NES Profile

- Test format
- Written Assignment
 - Directions
 - Scoring Scale
- Explanation of subareas and objectives

NES Score Reporting

Scores

- ▶ **Candidates access via account on the NES Web site**
- ▶ **Two score reports (as of Sept. 2012)**
 - **NES score report**
 - **AEPA score report**
- ▶ **Institutions access via NES Results Analyzer**

NES Faculty Resources

NES Faculty Resources

- ▶ Understanding Test Content
 - Mapping NES test frameworks to curriculum
- ▶ Helping Candidates Prepare
 - Coursework covers content assessed by the NES test
 - Assess candidate's readiness for testing
 - Review strategies for preparation

